



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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COUNTY OFFERS RABIES SHOTS, MICROCHIPPING, LICENSE AMNESTY

Services Available This Month in Bonita, San Diego

The County Department of Animal Services will offer low-cost rabies vaccinations, dog licensing and microchips at two of its shelters this month.

The services will be available from noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, April 10, at the Kroc-Copley Animal Shelter at 5480 Gaines Street in San Diego and from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Sunday, April 24, at the South County Animal Shelter at 5821 Sweetwater Road in Bonita.

With proof of a dog license, the Department will also be microchipping dogs for a one-time fee of \$20, which includes the registration. Moreover, owners who have never licensed their dogs or have allowed their licenses to lapse will be offered amnesty from any late fees. Dog licenses, which are required by law, may be purchased for one, two, or three years.

Cats can also get microchips. But there is no requirement for them to be licensed.

"Get the shot, get the license and a microchip, and get the peace of mind and protection these things bring," said Dawn Danielson, Director of the Department of Animal Services. "A microchip is a small transponder, the size of a grain of rice, which is injected under the skin and remains there for the life of the pet. The Department scans all incoming stray animals for the presence of a microchip. Staff is then able to locate the owner's information through the number on the microchip.

Rabies vaccinations for dogs (four months or older) and cats (three months or older) will be available for \$5.

For more information, you may contact the Department at (619) 236-4250 or visit its Web site at www.sddac.com. For the protection of owners and their pets, dogs must be on a leash and cats in a carrier at the shelters.

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